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Agenda items 5 & 9

STATUS OF PREPARATION OF PUBLICATIONS, STUDIES AND DOCUMENTS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

CONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE PREPARATORY WORK AND THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE REGIONAL MEETINGS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990 requested, among others, the specialized agencies, other international organizations, and concerned United Nations bodies, to assist the Preparatory Committee and to undertake reviews and submit recommendations on the World Conference and its preparation to the Preparatory Committee through the Secretary-General and to participate actively in the Conference. The Assembly renewed that request in its resolution 46/116 of 17 December 1991, in which it also requested the Secretary-General to encourage initiatives at the national, regional and international levels designed to make the World Conference process a success and to provide the Preparatory Committee with all necessary assistance.

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2. Pursuant to those requests from the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the World Conference convened on 26 April 1993, a meeting of consultation with representatives of concerned United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies to inform them of the progress made in the preparations for the World Conference and to discuss their contributions to the World Conference and its final outcome. The following were represented at this meeting of consultation:

Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA), United Nations Childrens' Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Volunteers (UNV), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRIS), International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Health Organization (WHO) and International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

3. A number of participants drew attention to the submission made by their organization or body to the preparatory process; a list of such submissions is set out in annex II.

4. Many representatives expressed the readiness of their respective organization or body to continue their close collaboration with the World Conference process and to contribute to its final outcome. It was recognized that the concerned United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies by reason of their specific mandates, their ongoing activities and their experience had an important contribution to make to the final outcome of the World Conference and the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Conference. The Secretary-General of the World Conference in this regard, was requested to facilitate the continuing contribution of the concerned United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies. The consideration by the Preparatory Committee of the final outcome of the World Conference was discussed and the various documents relating to that matter were referred to, including the results of the three regional meetings held at Tunis, San José, and Bangkok, contained in the respective reports (A/CONF.157/PC/57, 58 and 59) and the working paper annexed to document A/CONF.157/PC/82. A number of representatives expressed the desire to comment on the final outcome and in particular the working paper as part of their continuing contribution to the World Conference and its preparatory process.

5. Annex I contains the comments submitted to the Secretary-General. General comments were submitted by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme and the International Telecommunications Union. Specific comments on the draft final document were submitted by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Organization and the International Telecommunications Union.

6. An informal working group of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies (CSDHA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNHCR, ILO, ITU) held two meetings on 27 and 28 April 1993 to discuss the various proposals. During these meetings specific attention was given to the aspects touching system-wide United Nations activities for human rights and additional proposals were made. The members of the informal working groups expressed their willingness to continue to submit comments and recommendations during the preparatory process.

Annex I

COMMENTS MADE BY SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND CONCERNED UNITED NATIONS BODIES RELATING THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE

PART ONE : COMMENTS OF A GENERAL NATURE

A. Contribution of the International Telecommunications Union.

On 17 May next, less than one month before the World Conference on Human Rights, the Member countries of the ITU and the international community as a whole will be celebrating World Telecommunications Day on the topic "Telecommunications and Human Development".

Over and above a simple question of timing, the coincidence of these two major events serves to illustrate the substantive link between human rights and telecommunications. Telecommunications have permeated all human activities, bringing significant political, economic, social and cultural benefits to the human race.

At the political level, telecommunications enable individuals to exercise their rights to freedom of expression and access to information. The appropriation by society of communication media is consubstantial with democracy.

At the economic level, telecommunications foster greater productivity and competitiveness in all sectors of the economy.

At the social level, telecommunications ensure that social services (transport, education, public health) can operate efficiently. They play a crucial role in opening up isolated areas, coping with natural disasters or conflicts and assisting people in distress.

At a cultural level, telecommunications promote exchanges and contribute to furthering the ideals of peace and mutual understanding.

It has to some extent become a platitude to state that the information age is upon us and that telecommunications have taken on new significance. They have become, to use a standard expression, the backbone and nervous system of the world information society. Economic globalization is already a reality, and the networks of the future will no doubt have an impact on all areas of social activity (telework, teleteaching, etc.)

To the World Communications Advisory Council, telecommunications constitute a "fundamental social infrastructure" - perhaps the most important infrastructure of the information age"..."A global approach to telecommunications development is necessary therefore in the interest of both the developed and developing countries".

Meeting at Geneva in December 1992, the representatives of 144 States acknowledged these developments and gave ITU a mandate to "promote, at the international level, the adoption of a broader approach to the issues of telecommunications in the global information economy and society...".

Established in 1865, the International Telecommunications Union is the oldest intergovernmental organization. It was created in response to State's need to communicate more rapidly.

Since then the ITU has consistently focused its efforts on establishing a technically efficient world telecommunications infrastructure, through the development of universal standards promoting the interconnectivity and interworkability of telecommunications systems throughout the world, which is thus gradually becoming a global village reaffirming the ideals of peace, cooperation and progress to which the human race has never ceased to aspire.

However, the inhabitants of this global village are - and will no doubt long continue to be - subject to serious inequalities.

As long ago as 1984, the Independent Commission for Worldwide Telecommunications Development (Maitland Commission) concluded, in its report "The Missing Link" that "the gross and growing imbalance in the distribution of telecommunications throughout the world was not tolerable". For example, there are more telephone sets in Tokyo alone than in the whole of Africa with its 500 million or more inhabitants.

After emphasizing that telecommunications is "a key factor in economic, commercial and social activity and ... a prime source of cultural enrichment", the authors of the report go on to say that "neither in the name of common humanity nor on grounds of common interest is such a disparity acceptable" ... "It cannot be right that in the latter part of the twentieth century a minority of the human race should enjoy the benefits of the new technology while a majority live in comparative isolation."

Despite the interest aroused by these conclusions and the action undertaken by the ITU in cooperation with other international organizations in order to reduce the inequalities, there are still parts of the world where there is less than one "main subscriber line" per 100 inhabitants.

This type of exclusion, which was condemned by the Maitland Commission, is undoubtedly an impediment to the achievement of human rights objectives. Given the role played by telecommunications in furthering the cause of human rights and their exercise in practice, it would appear to be a matter of basic necessity for the international community to recognize each individual's right to communicate, that rights being interpreted as the right of access to telecommunications services.

B. Comments by the United Nations Development Programme on the working paper annexed to document (A/CONF.157/PC/82): Elements for consideration for possible inclusion in a draft final document.

UNDP welcomes the contribution to the outcome of the conference by the Secretary of the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF 157/PC/82) and, along with other parts of the UN System, UNDP will work to promote the recommendations for technical assistance that might be forthcoming from the World Conference.

To date, UNDP has worked in several countries in all world regions, together with UNCHR and the UN's Electoral Assistance Unit to respond to government requests for technical assistance in development activities linked to democracy and human rights. This field experience reveals a growing understanding of the all-encompassing nature of human rights in their social, economic, cultural, civil and political dimensions and their importance in sustaining development for present and future generations.

The working paper makes suggestions for indicators in Principle 16 (p. 8) and Paragraph 6 (p. 17). UNDP believes that the absence of indicators makes project design and evaluation more difficult. All international cooperation assistance flows -bilateral and multilateral, as well as capital and technical - may eventually include indicators to assess progress in the implementation of human rights targets. The point should also be made that such indicators should be culturally appropriate.

As regards the draft programme of action, Paragraph 7 "recommends that human rights officers be assigned to regional and eventually other offices of the Organization with the primary purpose ..." While it is of course the prerogative of the UNCHR to provide support as requested by governments, any joint programme with UNDP in response to government requests should, given UNDP's development mandate, be handled in the same manner as other technical assistance programmes.

UNDP welcomes the proposal to designate the Centre for Human Rights as focal point and coordination unit to facilitate "system-wide action in the field of human rights", as is stated in paragraph 8. However, we suggest that paragraph 9 be deleted, and replaced by the following, "UNCHR should establish specific working arrangements with UNDP as well as with other parts of the UN system, based on their comparative advantage, so as to achieve coordination and to avoid duplication of effort. There should be a very clear division of labour throughout the UN system between the normative work required and the technical assistance to support its implementation".

In Part III, paragraph 3, we suggest adding the phrase "in response to government requests". In paragraph 5, we suggest that the wording be changed from "should play a major role " to "be enabled to play a major role". As regards paragraph 6, we would repeat the comment made on Principle 16 above.

C. Recommendations of the Centre for Social development and Humanitarian Affairs concerning the draft final document.

Women

- appointment of special rapporteur on violence against women as a part of the request for a more responsive and effective e enforcement mechanism, especially addressing violence of women's rights.

- emphasizing the importance of women's participation on an equal footing in all branches of government.

- stressing the importance of women's equal access to all developments activities

- recommend that the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against women be taken into account by the World Conference.

- include gender-approach in all human rights bodies and instruments in their monitoring and implementation work.

- balance between men and women serving on human rights treaty bodies has to be improved.

- need to place the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against women on the same footing with other human rights treaty bodies.

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

- Reaffirm the importance of the full and effective implementation of United Nations standards in crime prevention and criminal justice;

- Underline the need for further coordination and concerted action in translating these standards into practice;

- encourage the provision of the necessary budgetary support to United Nations bodies working on the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice and on the implementation of United Nations standards in this field;

- in particular, support funding of the human rights programme and the programme on crime prevention and criminal justice to enable them to strengthen and coordinate activities in this field, with a view to undertaking joint programmes and developing collaborative mechanisms.

Family

- Recognition and Reaffirmation of the rights and responsibilities of the family as a social unit.

- Promotion of concepts regarding the family and intra-familial relationships that are consistent with basic human rights and equality of genders so that respect for human rights will be learned and practised in the family.

- Inclusion in the agenda of its session of the Commission on Human Rights consideration of the principles and objectives of the Year of the Family.

PART TWO: SPECIFIC COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE WORKING PAPER ANNEXED TO DOCUMENT A/CONF.157/PC/82.

A. Preamble

Seventh preambular paragraph

- After the words 'field of human rights' add the following "and to increase coordination among supervisory bodies within the United Nations System".

- Remove the word 'standards' at the end.

(ILO)

B. Principles

Principle 1.

Start with 'The promotion and protection of human rights of women, men and children.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO)

Principle 2.

Remove the following worlds 'further enhance the coordination of' and substitute the word 'base' and add after the word standards, "and that they strengthen coordination among them for this purpose".

(ILO)

Principle 3.

Reword the 4th sentence 'The exercise of any human right by women, men and children must not be denied because the full enjoyment of other rights has not been achieved, nor because of religious or cultural intolerance.

(UNIFEM, UNICEF, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Add after the third sentence: "Respect for political and civil rights stimulates the creativity, innovation and initiative necessary for a dynamic development process, whilst the latter is indispensable for the fulfilment of economic, social and cultural rights."

(UNCTAD)

Principle 5.

At the beginning of the fourth sentence, drop the word "democratic".

The following redraft is suggested,

Democracy is an essential condition for the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights and a main condition for genuine and sustainable development. Democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people and their full participation in deciding on all aspects of their lives.

(a) The international community should give full support to the action of the United Nations system for the strengthening and spreading of democratization throughout the world.

(b) Governments must make every effort to ensure the effective enjoyment of human rights by their peoples.

(c) Human rights problems must not be used as a pretext to avoid political and/or socio-economic cooperation.

(ILO)

Reword the 2nd sentence 'Democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people and the full participation of women and men in all political processes.

And add as a last sentence 'True democracy, human rights and peace are incompatible with poverty and all forms of exploitation.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Principle 6.

Substitute "achievement" for "enjoyment". (ILO)

Add after the second sentence: "Broadly based development is a sine qua non condition for a sustainable democratic process, whilst participatory development provides essential underpinning for the process of democratization and the full realization of all human rights".

(UNCTAD)

Principle 7.

The first line should read "It is essential to create...." (ILO)

Principle 8.

The words "political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status" from Article 2 of the Universal Declaration should be added to the first sentence. The second and third sentences dealing with racial discrimination should be dealt with separately.

(ILO)

The word "age" should be added to the list of types of discrimination in the first sentence.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNICEF, UNFPA)

Principle 9.

The principle should be redrafted as follows (additions or changes underlined)

The human rights of women are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. The equal participation of women in the political, civil, economic, social and cultural life, at both national and international levels, and the eradication of all forms of hidden or overt discrimination on grounds of sex are priority objectives. One of the symptoms of the lack of equality between women and men is gender based violence which must be eliminated together with all forms of sexual exploitation. The human rights of women and of the girl child should form an integral part of the United Nations Human Rights Programme.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNICEF, UNFPA)

To the third sentence, add the underlined phrase:

Gender-based violence, including the use of violence against women and girls as a method of warfare and a means of forcible displacement, and all forms of sexual exploitation must be eliminated.

(UNHCR, UNICEF)

Principle 9 should be placed ahead of Principle 8.

(ILO)

Reword the last sentence (changes underlined): "The human rights of women and the girl-child should form an integral part...".

(UNICEF)

Principle 10.

To the first sentence, add nationality between the words "identity" and "non-discrimination".

To the second sentence, add and mass exoduses between "prevention of conflicts" and "requires more active".

(UNHCR, UNIFEM)

After the word 'minorities' remove the word "and" and add, "including" and after the word 'indigenous' add "and tribal" and after the word peoples, add "respecting".

The last sentence should be dealt with separately.

(ILO)

Principle 11.

In the first sentence after the word 'indigenous' add "and tribal".

In the second sentence replace 'indigenous' by "those".

Add final sentence "States are urged to ratify and apply the international instruments which have been adopted for the protection of these peoples and the promotion of their interests".

(ILO)

Principle 12.

Para. should be reworded:

"The World Conference, welcoming the unprecedented success which the Convention on the Rights of the Child has enjoyed through the early ratification by a large number of States and noting the historic watershed in the recognition of the human rights of children in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit, urges universal ratification of the Convention by 1995 and

its effective implementation through the adoption of all the necessary legislative, administrative and other measures and the allocation to the maximum extent of the available resources. National and international mechanisms and programmes should be established for the defense and protection of children and adolescents, in particular, the girl-child, abandoned children, street children, economically and sexually-exploited children, children victims of AIDS, refugee children, children in armed conflict, as well as children victims of silent emergencies. International cooperation and solidarity should be promoted to support the implementation of the Convention and the rights of the child should be a priority in the United Nations system-wide action on human rights."

(UNICEF)

Principle 12. bis.

A new principle, to be inserted after Principle 12.

Aware of the human rights problems represented by massive and increasing numbers of forcibly displaced persons, the World Conference reaffirms the importance of providing international protection to refugees, calls upon all States to refrain from creating conditions which generate flows of refugees and displaced persons or which impede their voluntary return, and urges States to respect the right to seek asylum, and to accede to international and regional refugee instruments.

(UNHCR)

Principle 13.

The paragraph should read as follows (additions or changes underlined):

Utmost importance must be given to the promotion and protection of the human rights of vulnerable persons, the elimination of all forms of discrimination against them, and the development of additional norms for their protection when necessary. Vulnerability arises if a combination of factors contributing to disadvantage and discrimination occurs. States, therefore, have an obligation to create and maintain adequate measures at the national level, not least in the fields of education, health economic and social support, for the promotion and protection of the rights of these persons in populations who have become vulnerable. The participation of these persons in the solution of their own problems is essential.

(UNIFEM, CDSHA, UNFPA)

After "vulnerable groups", insert the following:

".., such as ethnic, national, racial, religious and linguistic minorities, migrant workers, disabled persons, indigenous peoples, refugees, displaced persons, the extreme poor and marginalized groups, and HIV positive or AIDS developed persons, ..."

(ILO, ITU, UNHCR, UNDP, UNCTAD, UNICEF, CSDHA, UNIFEM)

Principle 13.bis

After Principle 13, insert a new paragraph:

"Increasing poverty represents a direct denial of social and economic rights, whilst it creates tensions in society which negatively affect fundamental freedoms. The Conference recognizes the importance of designing policies, both national and international, aimed at fighting poverty and social exclusion as a most efficient way to promote human rights. It emphasizes the essential role that the forthcoming World Summit on Social Development is called upon to play in this respect."

(UNCTAD, UNDP, UNIFEM)

Principle 14.

To the end of the second sentence, add and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.

(UNHCR)

The limitation to these specific treaties is questioned.

(ILO)

Delete 'and' after 'Racial Discrimination' and add after 'Discrimination against Women' "and the Convention on the Rights of the Child".

(UNICEF)

Principle 15.

The first two sentences should read as follows (additions or changes underlined)

The administration of justice and an independent judiciary, in full conformity with internationally accepted standards, are crucial to the non-discriminatory and full realization of human rights, and indispensable to the process of democracy and development. The attainment of this objective requires substantial investment in the establishment and strengthening of institutions and the training of officials. Governments ...

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Add after "must recognize": ".. this and provide the necessary resources and technical assistance to the accomplishment of this task."

(UNDP)

Principle 16.

Remove reference to international labour standards: Comment by ILO - While appreciating the mention of international labour standards, the ILO feels that its standards come with sufficient indicators, especially the coherent and comprehensive supervisory machinery the ILO has in place. Indeed, the degree of implementation of relevant ILO standards is an indicator for Articles 6-10 of the Covenant.

(ILO)

The last part of the 2nd sentence should read (addition underlined):
...'together with a system of sex-disaggregated indicators to measure progress in...'

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Principle 17.

Add at the end, "and to ensure that the conclusions of each of them are fully taken into account by the others."

(ILO)

Add the following second sentence:

"However the role of national and international NGOs in establishing and enforcing ethical principles associated with their protection must also be recognised."

Add at end:

"and to co-operate closely with international NGOs concerned with the establishment and enforcement of relevant ethical principles."

(CSDHA)

Last sentence should read: "The Commission on Human Rights, its subsidiary organs and treaty bodies, specialized agencies of the United Nations system, such as ILO and UNESCO, as well as UNICEF, are encouraged to further strengthen their supervisory efforts."

(UNICEF)

Principle 18.

In the first sentence, add forced displacement of populations between the phrases "armed attacks on civilians" and "and the blocking of humanitarian relief".

(UNHCR)

The list of situations should also contain: 'rape and forced pregnancy' and 'trafficking in persons'.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

The list of situations should also contain: " systematic rape of women and children".

(UNICEF)

Principle 19.

Should come earlier.

(ILO)

Principle 20.

The second sentence should read (addition underlined): 'Such education shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial, ethnic, or religious groups....'

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Following the reference to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, reference should be made to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

(UNICEF)

Principle 20. bis (New Principle)

The United Nations system's programme of development assistance should contribute to the realization of and the respect for the human rights standards adopted by the system. The achievement of human rights, democracy and development should be a principal aim of all such assistance.

(ILO, UNIFEM, UNCTAD, UNHCR, ITU)

Principle 21.

Add as second sentence "These should draw on programmes of this kind that already exist in other parts of the United Nations system and among bilateral donors."

Reword the second sentence (changes underlined): '...respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms <u>of both women, men and children</u>.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

Add after uphold the rule of law, "enforce ethical principles associated with their protection".

(CSDHA)

After the first sentence, the following should be added: "This should be aimed at building the national capacity to create and support an enabling environment in which democratic institutions can promote and safeguard the respect for human rights."

(UNDP)

Principle 23.

To the second sentence, add <u>assist in preventing conditions which give rise to refugee flows</u> between the phrases "help ensure respect for human rights," and "and remedy violations."

(UNHCR)

Add at end "other bodies at the national level, including strong and independent organizations of workers and of employees, can also make important contributions in this area."

(ILO)

Principle 24.

Add at end "These regional arrangements should reinforce universal human rights standards and protection."

(ILO)

Principle 25.

Add after existing standards, "establishing, promoting and enforcing relevant ethical principles".

(CSDHA)

The last sentence should read: "...their contributions to all human rights activities, namely those undertaken by treaty-monitoring bodies and intergovernmental organizations should be facilitated."

(UNICEF)

At the end, add a new sentence:

"Development NGOs play an essential role in promoting human rights as they are key promoters and facilitators of participatory approaches to development and significantly contribute to poverty alleviation through grass root activities in the economic and social fields."

(UNCTAD)

Principle 27.

Add as a new principle:

Recognizing the importance of telecommunications for the realization of political, economic, social and cultural rights, the World Conference recognizes the right of each individual to communicate and reaffirms that the States have the duty to encourage the best possible access to telecommunication services.

(ITU)

C. Draft Programme of Action

I. United Nations system-wide action on Human Rights.

Para 2.

The first sentence should read as follows:

"Furthermore, the World Conference calls on regional organizations and on international and regional financial and development institutions to incorporate human rights in their work."

(ILO)

Para. 4.

To the first sentence, add refugee, and humanitarian law between "international human rights" and "treaties".

To the third sentence, add refugee, and humanitarian law between "basic human rights" and treaties.

To the fourth sentence, add refugee, and humanitarian law between "human rights" and "treaties".

(UNHCR)

In first sentence add after treaties "adopted by the United Nations and the Specialised Agencies".

In second sentence after Assembly add "and the Specialised Agencies are"

(ILO)

At the end add:

"the competent supervisory bodies should examine all such reservations to assess this compatibility, and should review the situation regularly."

(ILO)

The first sentence should read (changes and additions underlined): ....'accession and succession to <u>all</u> international human rights treaties with the aim of universal acceptance <u>and implementation</u> ...; The last sentence should read: 'Any reservations to and declarations about human rights treaties must be fully compatible with the object and purpose of the treaties concerned, <u>and</u> <u>reservations that are incompatible should be withdrawn.'</u>

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Para.5

After treaty bodies add "and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies concerned".

(ILO)

Para 6.

The words 'human rights' should be replaced by 'human rights of women, men and children'.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

Para 7.

To the second sentence, add <u>refugee, and humanitarian law</u> between "human rights" and "training for international civil servants."

(UNHCR)

Add at end "Such training should draw on the expertise of all the United Nations system bodies concerned."

(ILO, UNHCR)

The last sentence should read (addition underlined): 'Human rights training, <u>including gender awareness</u> ...'

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Para 8.

Redraft as follows:

"The World Conference calls for the setting up of machinery for facilitating system-wide action in the field of human rights and endorses the designation of the Centre for Human Rights as focal point for this purpose. The Centre should closely coordinate the human rights activities of bodies of the United Nations, and function as a focal point for developing coherent system-wide action."

(ILO)

Para 8. bis

A new paragraph 8.bis should be added as follows: "The Centre for Human Rights should establish specific working arrangements with UNDP as well as with other parts of the United Nations system, based on their comparative advantage, so as to achieve coordination and to avoid duplication of effort. There should be a very clear division of labour throughout the United Nations system between the normative work required and the technical assistance to support its implementation."

(UNDP)

Para. 9

Replace 'be enabled' by "receive the resources necessary".

(ILO)

II. Equality, Dignity and Tolerance

A. Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

Para 1.

Add "the specialised" before 'agencies' in second sentence.

(ILO)

Para 3.

The words "and requests that the Special Rapporteur pay particular attention to their effects on women." should be added at the end of the first sentence.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, ILO)

B. Minorities and Indigenous Peoples

Add "and Tribal" before 'Peoples' in the title.

(ILO)

Para.1 .

To the second sentence, add at the end: and forced displacement of populations.

(UNHCR)

Para 2.

Should be redrafted as follows:

"The World Conference calls on the Working Group on Indigenous Populations to complete the drafting of a declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. It endorses the effective mechanisms of the International Labour Organization for the monitoring of its standards on this subject, among others, and encourages the Working Group and other bodies that will discuss the draft Declaration to ensure that it does not fall below the level of ILO standards on indigenous and tribal peoples. The World Conference further encourages other intergovernmental organizations and governments to establish more effective mechanisms for the protection of indigenous and tribal peoples' rights."

(ILO)

Para 3.

The first sentence should read (addition underlined): "...to treat minorities and indigenous peoples, and both women and men belonging to them, on the basis of equality."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

C. The Status and Human Rights of Women.

Para 1. (The last sentence should be redrafted as follows)

In addition, existing monitoring bodies should, whenever applicable, include the status and the human rights of women, in particular gender-specific abuses, in their deliberations and findings.

(CSDHA, UNIFEM, UNFPA)

In first sentence the word "system" should be added after United Nations.

In last sentence after bodies "of the United Nations, the ILO and others" should be added.

(ILO)

Para 2.

In the third sentence, add and the use of violence against women as a means of forcible displacement between "murder and rape" and "require a particularly effective response".

(UNHCR)

In second sentence after 'justice' add, "the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation on the basis of international labour standards".

(ILO)

Para should be redrafted (changes underlined)

"The World Conference stresses the importance of promoting and protecting the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights. In particular, the World Conference emphasizes work geared towards the elimination of sexual exploitation and trafficking in women, the proper treatment of women in the administration of justice, and the eradication of all conflicts which may arise between the rights of women and girls and harmful effects of certain traditional or customary practices and religious extremism. The violation of the rights of women in national and international armed conflicts, including in particular military sexual slavery murder, rape and forced pregnancy requires a particularly effective response and prosecution by an international criminal court. Until such time as this is established the World Conference urges that ad hoc War Crimes Tribunals should be set up."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

Para 4.

Should be redrafted (changes underlined)

The World Conference recognises that implementation procedures under the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women must be strengthened. This should include an examination of the possibility by the Commission on Human Rights and CEDAW of introducing the right of

petition by preparing an optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women...

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

A new sentence at the end of para 4 should be added as follows:

"Further the World Conference recommends that the Draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women be adopted by the General Assembly."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNICEF)

Para 5.

The first sentence should end "..to guarantee the participation of women."

Another sentence should be added: "The United Nations system should set goals and timetables to secure equal representation of women on all UN treaty committees and among the special rapporteurs and working groups established by the UN Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and under the Programme on Advisory Services in Human Rights, and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, ILO)

Para 7.

Add new para as under:

The World Conference recognizes the importance of the enjoyment of the highest standard of physical and mental health for women throughout their life span, especially during childhood and adolescence, when their right to life and health and their development is threatened due to exploitation, discrimination, abuse, forced pregnancy and lack of educational opportunity. The World Conference reaffirms women's fundamental rights to accessible and adequate health care and safe motherhood as already contained in article 16 of the Teheran Proclamation, in article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and reiterated by many international conferences. This includes a woman's right to information, education and access to the widest range of family planning and other reproductive health services. The World Conference recognizes the right of a woman to receive adequate counselling in order to make a free and informed decision.

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

A new section on Child's rights under Chapter II should be added as follows:

D. First call for children

1. The World Conference reiterates the principles of "First Call for Children" and, in this respect, underlines the importance of major national and international efforts, especially those of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), for promoting respect for the rights of the child both girl and boy to survival, protection, development and participation. Measures should be taken to achieve universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by 1995 and the universal signing of the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action, as well as their effective implementation.

2. The World Conference urges all States with the support of international cooperation, to adopt and implement national plans of action for children, to combat the devastating effects of loud emergencies, resulting from natural disasters and armed conflicts, which displace, disable and traumatize millions of children, and to address silent emergency situations, including entrenched poverty, disease, illiteracy and inadequate services, which cause many more deaths than the louder emergencies.

3. The World Conference urges all States to strive to achieve the goals for children and development in the 1990s, as contained in the World Summit Plan of Action, including reduction of infant and maternal mortality rates, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition of children under 5, universal access to safe drinking water and to basic education, reduction of illiteracy rate, and improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances. Other important targets are the elimination of female infanticide, the elimination of child labour and of the sexual exploitation of children.

4. The World Conference recommends further efforts by states and by the United Nations system, especially the UNICEF, to address the acute needs of children by putting children first in national budgets, official development assistance, development programmes, as well as in the allocation of other resources.

5. The World Conference recommends that matters relating to human rights and the situation of children be regularly and systematically reviewed and monitored by all United Nations system human rights mechanisms, including the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Social Development, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the treaty-monitoring bodies, special rapporteurs and working groups and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies.

6. The World Conference recognizes the important role played by nongovernmental organizations in the effective implementation and in the systematic monitoring of all international human rights instruments and, in particular, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.

7. The World Conference recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child, with the assistance of the Centre for Human Rights, be enabled to expeditiously and effectively meet its mandate, especially in view of the unprecedented ratification and subsequent submission of country reports. The Committee should be provided with adequate resources to be in a position to efficiently consider country reports and duly follow up on its recommendations for compliance by Governments, with the assistance of the international community."

(UNICEF, CSDHA, UNIFEM, ILO, UNHCR)

New Section E

A new section on specific groups should be added as follows:

"E. <u>The protection and strengthening of the human rights of other specific groups</u>

1. In addition to those mentioned above, the promotion and protection of the human rights of other specific groups should form an integral part of the work of the United Nations and their situation should form an integral part of the assessment of the need for and the impact of development assistance carried out by the United Nations system, on the basis of international human rights standards.

2. These groups include but are not limited to:

(a) migrant workers and other workers in need of special protection, as defined in international labour standards, the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families and the relevant sections of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

(b) refugees, displaced persons especially women and children in need of protection and those living in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international and relevant regional refugee law and human rights and humanitarian law;

(c) persons with disabilities,

(d) others in need of health care not already available to them, especially HIV positive or AIDS developed persons;

(e) those living in extreme poverty."

(ILO, UNHCR, UNDP, UNTAD, UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNICEF)

III. Cooperation, Development and Strengthening of Human Rights.

Para 1.

At end first sentence added "by the Centre for Human Rights"

At end add :

"This programme of advisory services and technical cooperation should draw on the expertise of United Nations organs and the Specialized Agencies within their respective mandates, should contribute to the advisory and assistance programmes which they carry out, and should be fully coordinated with them" .

(ILO, UNDP, UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNHCR)

Para.2

Add and mass exoduses between "conflicts" and "peace-making"; add at the end of the sentence, and refugee repatriation.

(UNHCR)

Para 3.

Add at the end of the paragraph "in response to government request".

(UNDP)

Para 4.

The second sentence should be reworded as follows:

The strategy could encompass formulation of criteria for the assessment of progress, including the examination of sample projects, introduction of human rights impact statements for projects, programmes and policies affecting human rights, preparation of guidelines aimed at insuring the compatibility between structural adjustment policies and respect for human rights, identification of internal and external obstacles to the enjoyment of the right with a view to overcoming them, and dissemination of wider knowledge about the rights.

(UNCTAD, UNIFEM, CSDHA, ILO)

At end add:

"The development assistance activities of the United Nation system should promote human rights as an integral part of the right to development."

(ILO, UNCTAD)

Para 4. bis

A new paragraph should be added as follows:

This strategy should encompass a broader approach of telecommunications. In this framework, the World Conference calls upon the United Nations system, especially the ITU, to address the challenge of the global information society and recommends further efforts by states to give higher priority to telecommunications in the allocation of resources in order to ensure the right to communicate.

(ITU)

Para 5.

The sentence should read (addition underlined): "The World Conference recommends that non-governmental and other grass roots organizations, <u>including women's, youth and children's organizations,</u> ....

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

Add after 'should' "be enabled to" and after 'debate' "in consultations on policy formulation".

(UNDP, UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNCTAD)

Para 6.

The last sentence should read (addition underlined): " .... to continue the development of a system of <u>sex-disaggregated</u> indicators ...."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

IV. Human Rights Education.

Para 1. Second sentence should read (changes underlined):

"The World Conference calls on all States and private institutions, as a matter of the highest priority, to include human rights <u>with a gender perspective</u> in the

curricula of all learning institutions in formal and non-formal settings and including popular and adult education."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

Para.4. First sentence should read (changes underlined):

Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have a responsibility to initiate and support education in human rights and associated ethical principles, and to undertake effective dissemination of public information about human rights.

(CSDHA)

V. Implementation and Monitoring.

Para 3. (bis)

New para should read as follows:

"The World Conference recommends that the United Nations treaty bodies and other human rights mechanisms, take full account of the work of the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies on related human rights questions, and particularly those of the ILO and UNESCO; and that those bodies take full account of the work of the United Nations bodies in this regard.

(ILO)

Para 4.

After monitoring system add "of the United Nations".

(ILO)

Para 4. (bis)

New para should read as follows:

"The World Conference recommends that all UN treaty committees, thematic and country rapporteurs and working groups, independent experts and all bodies entrusted with protecting human rights address violations of women's human rights by including gender-specific abuses, in the areas that fall within their mandates (through advisory services, training programmes, reporting, monitoring and complaints procedures, etc)."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Para 6.

To the second sentence add:

"and the mass exoduses which often result between "outbreaks of serious violations of human rights" and "and to bring an end to such situations";

add "emergency response between "preventive action" and "and for active methods to arrest such situations".

(UNHCR)

The first sentence should read as follows (changes underlined)

"The World conference underlines the importance of preserving and strengthening the system of country and thematic rapporteurs and working groups reporting to the Commission on Human Rights, including separate and going visits for fact-finding and on-site monitoring including violations of women's human rights and gender-specific abuses and the necessary human and financial resources for carrying them out....."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA)

Para 9.

Replace existing text with the following:

The World Conference, recognizing the role and responsibility of human rights organs in preventing circumstances which force people to become displaced persons or refugees and promoting conditions conducive to their voluntary repatriation, recommends that existing mechanisms pay particular attention to human rights problems leading to displacement, and that the Commission on Human Rights establish a mechanism to monitor and report on human rights situations with the potential to cause population displacements or to impede voluntary return, and to recommend effective responses by the States concerned and by the international community.

(UNHCR)

Add after the end of the para: "... and to take account of the gender-specific abuses faced by women and children in such situations."

(UNIFEM, CSDHA, UNFPA, UNICEF)

VI. Follow-up to the World Conference.

Comment by ILO -

Would it not be more appropriate to ask the Secretary-General to convene regular meetings and to take other appropriate measures to implement the recommendations of the World Conference, and to report annually to the Commission on Human Rights on the results achieved?.

ANNEX II

Documentation submitted to the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee of the World Conference by Specialized Agencies, United Nations bodies and Programmes

United Nations Development Fund for Women	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.17
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.14
United Nations Children's Fund	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.15
United Nations Population Fund	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.9
Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.5
International Labour Organization	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.10
United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.6
World Health Organization	A/CONF.157/PC/61/Add.8